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UM PMBA program ranked No. 14 in nation

BY KATHRYN WINTER
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The University of Mississippi School of Business is rising in national ranks, beating out other SEC schools, including Florida, Auburn, Alabama and Mississippi State.

The professional master's of business online degree program has been ranked No. 14 in the nation by U.S. News and World Report.

The program is designed for business professionals who graduated with a business degree but are currently working and want to earn a master's degree in business. People interested in the program must have two years of professional work experience.

MBA program director Bethany Cooper said a lot of schools are moving toward the online degree format because they are so popular.

"It's a real high-quality, engaging program," she said. "The faculty are top faculty teaching in the online MBA and they take the effort to build their courses for the online program."

Some professors even hold "office hours" for their online students.

"Our alumni network is really successful," Cooper said. "They got their undergrad here and so they want to continue with their Ole Miss education, and they can with this online program, no matter if you live in Nashville or Houston."

Cooper said students come from all over the country and, in some cases, all over the world.

"They all come from different industries, different jobs and that rich expertise dialogue happens online, and

See PMBA, PAGE 6

KA students remembered by legislature

BY MARIDANE HEWES
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It has been about four months since the tragic car accident involving Sam Clayton Kelly, Walker Kelly and Mason Wilbanks.

Since their deaths, a number of things have happened to make sure the three boys are not forgotten.

"Any time a parent experiences a loss like this, one of the main concerns is making sure that people always remember their son," said Sam Clayton's father, Sam Kelly.

What began with Chancellor Dan Jones speaking at their funeral and the Kappa Alpha blood drive has led to their induction into the Kappa Alpha Order and honors by state legislation. There is also a golf tournament being planned and scholarships being set up in their names.

"The boys loved Ole Miss and being a part of KA, and it's become very apparent that love was mutual," said Mason's father, Ken Wilbanks. "For KA to initiate the boys, wow! What a very special and touching tribute. And for Chancellor Jones to attend the Celebration of Life service



Left to Right: Mason Wilbanks, Walker Kelly and Sam Clayton Kelly.

PHOTO COURTESY KEN WILBANKS

and deliver such an inspirational message — again, wow."

The state legislation commemorates the lives of each young man, talking a little bit about each one. It tells of the example they set, along with the good they did and honors them for the impact they had.

KA has begun setting up a scholarship at the University of Mississippi and Madison Central High School is providing

three this spring for graduating seniors.

"The families are extremely touched and truly humbled by the outpouring of love and support shown us from Ole Miss, KA, Madison Central High School, the Madison community, the Mississippi Legislature and even as far away as 'The Swamp' in Florida during this very difficult and trying time," Wilbanks said. "The lives Mason, Sam

Clayton and Walker touched in their short time here is incredible, and the lives they are continuing to touch is immeasurable."

Kelly said one of the hardest things is simply knowing that their lives were cut short.

"I just want people to look at the life they led, adopt the attributes each one had and do something positive because none of us are guaranteed tomorrow," he said.

Ole Miss alum part of Oscar-winning documentary

BY ROSS CABELL
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University of Mississippi alumnus Bill Courtney didn't plan on changing anyone's life when he started coaching at Manassas High School, located in the impoverished area of North Memphis. He also did not realize that documenting his last season at Manassas would bring home an Oscar for best documentary.

It all started in 2004 after his friend Jim Tipton told the school he knew a guy who could help out. Courtney agreed, with no intention of staying there long — much less for six years.

"My business is about a mile away from the school," Courtney said. "In the past, I coached football and taught school. They had only 17 kids and had only won a couple of games. So I went over and coached."

Because North Memphis was a different area than what he

was used to, the kids Courtney would end up coaching were not like the ones he had experience with. However, Courtney said this did not change how he coached the players.

"You are talking about an area that is riddled with abject poverty," he said. "Young men are more likely to get incarcerated than go to college. I didn't coach those kids differently than in the suburbs. If the kids believe that you care about them, they respond to coaching."

In the 110 years since the school was founded, the Manassas football team had not won a single playoff game. The Tigers would pay rival teams in "pay games" to beat them and raise funds for the team.

Little by little, Courtney and his fellow coaches, along with a new group of promising students, changed the football program at Manassas. By fall

See UNDEFEATED, PAGE 6

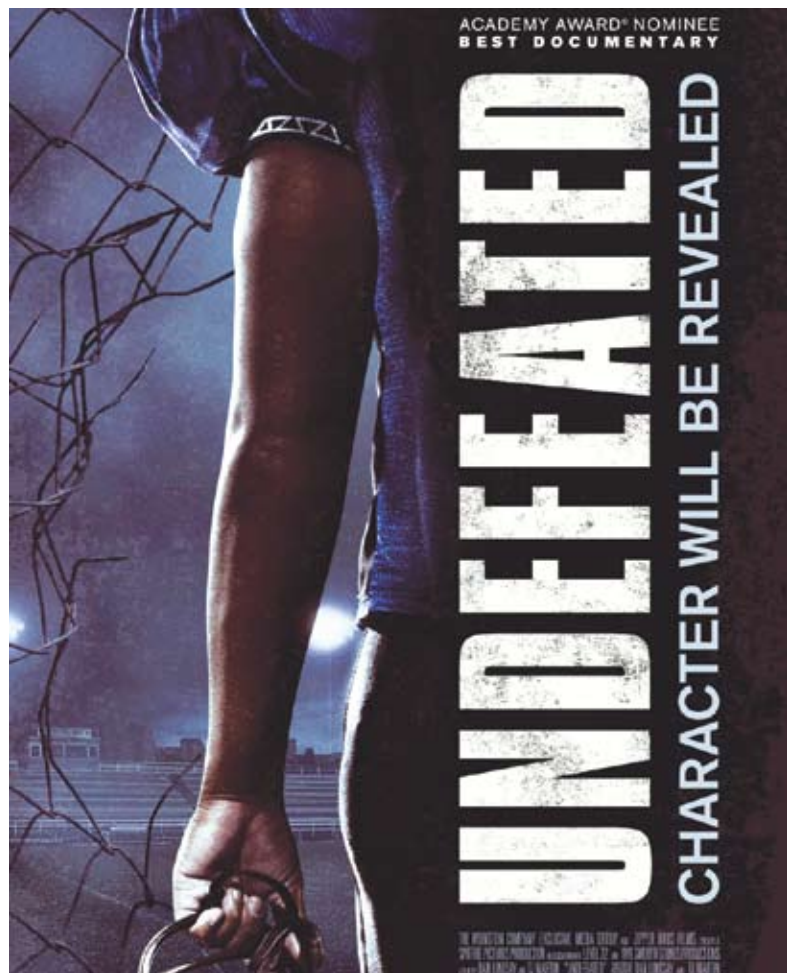


PHOTO COURTESY ZIPPER BROS FILMS

inside



Bus safety important in Mississippi, Oxford

P. 5



SEC Tournament storylines: Kendrick suspended, bubble watch

P. 11



Kirksey powers No. 14 Ole Miss to blowout win against UT-Martin

P. 12



BY JOSH CLARK
@dm_toons



Spring break satisfaction



BY ADAM GANUCHEAU
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After months of waiting, spring break is almost here. Whether you are stumbling down Bourbon Street, getting sand in places you didn't know existed or remembering why you went to college in the South when your fingers get frostbitten on the slopes, you are bound to have a blast. There are only about four spring breaks left as a college student, so you're going to make the most of it. Spring break may be a time for fun, but we need to remember to keep it relaxing, too.

We all know the feeling in the hellish weeks before finals — drained and emotional. Everyone likes to party and have fun, including myself, and I am in no way suggesting to hold back. What I am suggesting is to find some time to just relax. In two weeks, when you are reminiscing on your wild spring break and telling crazy stories to your friends, you should be able to say, "I am relaxed and ready to finish the semester strong." Not only will you have found time to relax, but you will have great satisfaction with yourself

and your future grades. The ones I will have the most respect for, though, are the ones who are going out to change the world during their only break of the semester. Mission trips and study abroad programs are a great alternative to the normal college spring break and will achieve much of the same relaxation and satisfaction for students I referenced earlier. As we wrap up the first half of the semester, I will leave you with some advice. First, for the girls who have been extreme dieting to fit in a size two for the beach, be careful with the

binge drinking. Second, for the guys who are going to be scoping destinations for drunk freshmen, keep it classy. Your mother most likely wouldn't approve. Finally, for everyone, represent yourself and the University of Mississippi with class and dignity. We don't need another YouTube video of a drunk sorority girl throwing up on a bartender while wearing an Ole Miss shirt. Adam Ganucheau is a sophomore journalism major from Hazlehurst. Follow him on Twitter @GanucheauAdam.

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Letters should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than 300 words. Third party letters and those bearing pseudonyms, pen names or "name withheld" will not be published. Publication is limited to one letter per individual per calendar month.
Student submissions must include grade classification and major. All submissions must be turned in at least three days in advance of date of desired publication.



Ron Paul: the man for Mississippi



BY ALEC JONES
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Perhaps you've heard there's an election this year. From the incessant media coverage to the Super PAC attack ads, you're probably ready for it all to be over with – even if 2012 is supposedly the year the world ends.

America stands at a crossroads and we can't afford to be indifferent about electing our next president. The mayhem of the Bush Administration is increasing exponentially under Obama. The country will only become more divided until the left and right clearly define their values and act upon them. Texas Congressman Ron Paul is the unifying force needed to restore America and steer our ship of state in the right direction.

Most Mississippians are conservative and since we already know the Democrats will choose Obama as their challenger, the Republican choice is most relevant. The Ron Paul Revolution not only addresses conservatives tired of moder-

ate Republicans but also answers the alienated Democrats wondering what happened to their hope and change.

When Mississippians arrive at the polls for the Republican Primary on March 13, there are three things they'll have in mind: social, foreign policy and fiscal conservatism. These ideals haven't defined a presidency since Reagan but are ironically what many Democrats demand this time around.

America divides itself on social issues, allowing big government to reign in from both parties on the fiscal and foreign policy issues. As a strict Constitutionalist, Ron Paul wants to put social matters back in the hands of states and get a bureaucratic federal government out of people's lives. This is what Mississippi deserves. As long as we support candidates like Rick Santorum who cherry-pick scripture while treading on the Constitution, we'll find ourselves living in an America uncomfortably similar to Middle Eastern theocracies.

Abandoning foreign policy conservatism is how America lost its way. Our perpetual wars against ambiguous enemies is neoconservatism, an idea that makes Reagan and

Barry Goldwater roll over in their graves. It's a brand of liberalism too extreme for Democrats that forced its way into the home of the GOP. A conservative foreign policy advocates building a strong military but speaking softly and carrying a big stick – being reluctant to fight so as to be the last one standing.

This is why we won WWII and America's failure to live by this principle is why rural Americans who fight our wars have a moral obligation to support Ron Paul.

Downsizing our wars, re-investing in our military and supporting veterans is the only logical choice. In the words of Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, "The most significant threat to our national security is our debt." Former Defense Secretary Robert Gates asserts that "we can't have a strong military if we have a weak economy."

Apparently Ron Paul is the only candidate who gets the big picture. You can't have big government at home without big government abroad.

Naturally, the economy is the biggest factor in this election and if you're not voting with your pocketbook you're not voting with your brain. The

mystery of the decade may be why Americans haven't rallied behind the only candidate to predict the housing bubble, recession and decline of the dollar and who demands a return to the gold standard.

It's clear how Obama feels about bankrupting America but the Republican alternatives to President Paul are equally dismal. Romney proposes a budget that increases the debt by \$250 billion while Gingrich and Santorum aim to increase the debt by \$7 trillion and \$4.5 trillion, respectively. Ron Paul will decrease the debt by \$2.2 trillion while increasing military investment and lowering taxes.

The government will pay for its debt by taxing its largest revenue source, the middle class. It's no surprise the National Taxpayers Union gives Paul the only "A" rating of all the candidates.

Mississippi has an open Republican primary, meaning every registered voter can participate regardless of party affiliation. It's a failure of values that continues to place big government politicians from both parties in office and offering no real solutions. Cognitive dissonance – continuing a certain behavior in fear of admitting you've been wrong – is

what ails us. Every Mississippian who believes in a free and prosperous America has all the necessary information to make a choice in the right direction. Acting on that knowledge is the only challenge.

Ron Paul performs better in a head to head match-up against Obama than every other Republican. He also garners more support from voters under 40 than any other candidate; proof that his ideas are the spirit of the future.

Before America elected Jimmy Carter in 1976, Mississippi surprisingly supported Gerald Ford over Reagan in the 1976 primaries. Many believe the Reagan Revolution officially took off after his momentous state's rights speech at the 1980 Neshoba County Fair. Mississippi once again has the chance to make a national statement of what she stands for 32 years later. The world is changing too rapidly this time to wait another four years.

Alec Jones is a junior accountancy major from Catonsville, Md. "Like" him at facebook.com/thealecjones.

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THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

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St. Patrick’s Day event to raise money for The Pantry

BY TERESA HENDRIX
tehendri@olemiss.edu

Remember to pack something green for St. Patrick’s Day over Spring Break to help set the Guinness World Record for the “Largest St. Patrick’s Day Celebration Ever.”

Liz Barrett, the owner of EatingOxford.com, said she was selected as Mississippi’s influencers to encourage people to participate.

“I was approached by a Guinness account coordinator because of the popularity of EatingOxford.com in Mississippi,” she said. “They were seeking someone who could get the word out to the most people.”

After joining the effort, Barrett said she knew right away that she was going to help The Pantry.

“Everyone who is of legal drinking age (can) visit Guinness.com and pledge to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with a pint of Guinness,” Barrett said. “Using the optional code OXFO will give credit to Oxford and for each pledge, EatingOxford.com will be able to make a donation to The Pantry.”

Barrett has a goal of raising



Liz Barrett, the owner of EatingOxford.com, is gearing up to promote a St. Patrick’s Day event and raise money for the Oxford Food Pantry.



PHOTOS BY TERESA HENDRIX | The Daily Mississippian

\$500, which would be put to great use by The Pantry, according to its co-director Julien Tatum.

“When The Pantry orders from the USDA and the Mid-South Food Bank, at times the demand is so great that a lot of basic food items are not there,” she said.

Essentially, a \$500 donation could help purchase these items, along with the fresh meat and milk that The Pantry purchases on its own with private monetary donations.

Regarding The Pantry’s clients, Tatum said, “You’d nor-

mally think of one family (living in a one house), but sometimes there are two or three families living in the same house, and we’ll feed them all. Each month (we help) around 450 families. That’s anywhere from 800 to 1,000 people. Without the support of both Oxford and the university, there wouldn’t be too much to us.”

For those who aren’t of legal age to participate in the world record attempt, there are many other ways to benefit The Pantry. Food donations are always appreciated, and Tatum said volunteers are needed

on Wednesday and Thursday mornings to “sort the food, stock the shelves and help clients go through and pick their food. The pantry here is different in that we (provide the experience) of a grocery store, and (clients) go up and down the aisles. With other pantries, clients receive a box of food and don’t have any choice. We’re a little bit more ‘client-friendly.’ With many of our clients, we’re on a first-name basis. They know us, and we know them.”

Fittingly, the world record not only seeks to gather the most pledges for a campaign, but also

to designate March 17 as the “friendliest day of the year.”

Participants pledge not simply to participate, but to be friendly to everyone on St. Patrick’s Day as is the traditional “Irish way.” So even if students don’t have Irish roots to toast on St. Patrick’s Day, they can celebrate the friendliness of Oxford year-round and spread it through the Guinness World Record for the Largest St. Patrick’s Day Celebration Ever.

For more information about volunteering with The Pantry, please contact the monthly manager at 662-832-8001.

UNDEFEATED,

continued from page 1

2009, there was hope that the Tigers would make it to the playoffs.

A producer caught wind of the Manassas football team around February 2009 after the Tigers were featured in an article. A Commercial Appeal reporter wrote about a student who was going to live with

coach Mike Ray part-time so he could be tutored and make good-enough grades to play on the football team.

As the documentary “Undeclared” began, the focus turned to three players on the team: senior left tackle O.C. Brown, senior offensive lineman Montrail, or “Money,” and junior linebacker Chavis.

These three young men and their relationship with coach Courtney is the driving force behind the documentary. Dur-

ing the course of the football season, an injured player may get to finish playing his last year, a hothead may have to stay off the team due to his volatile nature and a player that needs to make the grades to play college football may achieve his goals.

Because the documentary focused on the players instead of football, it has gained a lot of positive attention. Courtney said he wasn’t surprised at the reactions because it is something anyone can relate to.

“There was an older lady who saw the movie in a focus group in L.A.,” he said. “She said, ‘This is the best movie I’ve ever seen; it’s my all-time favorite movie.’ She had no idea that it wasn’t actors — that it was real people. ‘Undeclared’ has nothing to do with wins and losses.”

The positive feedback may not have been unexpected, but Courtney said the Academy Award nomination was a huge shock.

“I was asleep; I had been at the office the night before,” he said. “The phone rang at 7:20 (a.m.) and I had to go into work at 8:30 (a.m.). The director who was in L.A. called me and I asked him, ‘What are you calling me for at 5:20?’ He then told me, ‘Your story

got nominated for an Oscar.’ I told him OK and hung up. I called him back as soon as I woke back up.”

Things have changed for Courtney and the players since the documentary won an Oscar, but Courtney said he’s doing his best to keep things in perspective.

“It is surreal,” he said. “I do want to enjoy it. Honestly though, it is just a moment. For an 18 year old, they have a long, miserable life (ahead) if this is what has defined them. It doesn’t need to define us. It’s going to college, getting a degree, having a family — not a damn movie. It is humbling and great. Nineteen seniors went to college.”

Courtney taught and coached at several schools before Manassas, but whether he was in the suburbs or North Memphis, he said he didn’t deal with the kids any differently.

“In two ways I related to kids,” he said. “As a kid, I lived in it and played with those guys. I know what it is like to be lost and lonely. I just coached them; I didn’t treat them any different. They have the same fears and anxieties. You coach and mentor and love; you love in spite of, not because.”

As a student at Ole Miss, football played an big role in Courtney’s life. He was a junior when the Sigma Nu Charity Bowl was founded to honor Ole Miss football player Chucky Mullins, who broke his neck and was paralyzed.

“If you are willing to put that garbage to the side and work together for a common purpose, it truly is amazing,” he said.


Courtney said he wrote to Dean of Students Sparky Reardon when “Undeclared” was nominated for an Oscar. Reardon, who taught Courtney during his undergraduate tenure at Ole Miss, said this was his first year to watch the Oscars.

“I knew him as an undergrad and he had a great deal of self confidence, but he was very respectful,” Reardon said. “Bill is passionate. He was passionate when he was a sports writer at The DM. I am just real proud of Bill and everyone who has had a hand in this; it’s a real testament to Ole Miss.”

Courtney left Manassas after the 2009 season, but he will always be connected to the school, the team and the players.

“Not a day goes by that I don’t talk to them,” he said.

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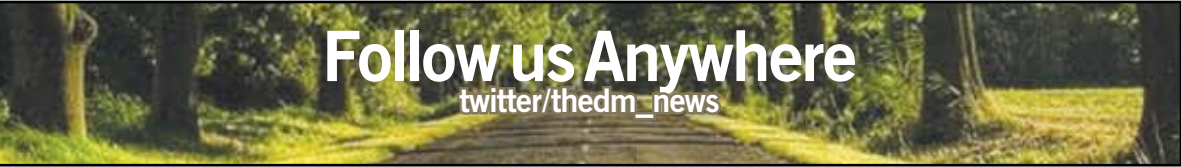
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Bus safety important in Mississippi, Oxford

BY MARGARYTA KIRAKOSIAN
mkirakos@olemiss.edu

There have been 765 school bus accidents with vehicles and 73 accidents with other objects, such as trees or light poles, in the state of Mississippi since 2006.

This has some people wondering how safe primary- and college-aged students are on buses in Oxford.

In 2009, there were four school bus crashes in Lafayette County, one in 2010 and none in 2011, according to Mississippi Highway Patrol. Oxford University Transit (OUT) superintendent Ron Biggs said that since starting the service, there have only been minor accidents.

“OUT began in October of 2008 (and) I am glad to say we have not had any major accidents in our three and a half years of service,” Biggs said. “We have had 10 minor scrapes. I feel this is good for the number of hours we are on the road.”

Oxford school buses are inspected daily by the bus driver and all the buses are on a scheduled preventive maintenance program. Like all yellow school buses in the United States, those in Oxford are considered to be 172 times safer than a family automobile, eight times safer than passenger trains or scheduled airlines and four times safer than transit buses or intercity buses, according to Sonny Brownlee, Oxford School District director of school services.

“Schoolbus drivers are required to pass random drug and alcohol testing each month,” Brownlee said. “A school bus driver’s background is checked on the Child Abuse Registry. They must have a clean driving record, both professionally and personally.”

School buses are equipped



PHOTOS BY TYLER JACKSON | The Daily Mississippian

TOP: An Oxford-Lafayette County school bus coming from school on Old Taylor Road. BOTTOM: An OUT bus drives down Old Taylor Road.

with video cameras to promote a safe environment and bus driver teacher assistants are placed on buses at random. Also, new school buses and bus stop signs have LED (light emitting diode) strobe lighting in the flashing lights, which are brighter and

more noticeable than the conventional lighting.

A school bus driver should have a satisfactory driving and employment record, be able to pass all required training, must possess or obtain a Class B Commercial Driver’s License and

have no clinical diagnoses that could threaten the safety of the students.

Safety measures differ for the Oxford University Transit buses.

“Every driver gets 80 hours of training before running a bus,” Biggs said. “Our main policy is

to choose safe drivers.”

Students and local residents feel comfortable riding Oxford University Transit.

“I trust drivers’ skills and safety measures in Oxford University Transit buses,” said resident Aneriona Howard.

PMBA,

continued from page 1

it really adds to their class experience,” she said.

Shea Rial, a market research consultant living in Tupelo, decided to enroll in Ole Miss’ online PMBA program. The El Paso, Texas native graduated from Texas A&M University and tried taking courses at two other universities before making the decision.

“The program is excellent, both in academic and financial value,” Rial said. “What the nation finds out through this ranking is that the University of Mississippi delivers

excellence through care, concern and competence.”

Ole Miss has several online courses and degree programs, but the PMBA program was the first offered entirely online.

“We try to mimic exactly what we do in class,” said business school dean Ken Cyree.

“What we want is an experience as close as the in-class experience so that there can be interaction and the same experience (as) if you were getting an MBA here on campus.”

Cyree said the program gets a lot of leaders in the industry who want to further their career with an MBA.

“A lot of very high-pow-

ered and wonderful students that are already working can get the degree without quitting their job,” he said. “If they have family obligations, they’re still able to get further education without giving up income, and they can advance in their career because they won’t have to quit and come back to school.”

Both Cyree and Cooper said it feels great to be recognized by the U.S. World and News Report.

“It’s a good reflection of what we’re doing,” Cyree said. “We’ve gotten good feedback from students. It’s hard for us to do it the way that we’re doing it, but it’s paying off and it reflects our commitment to our students.”

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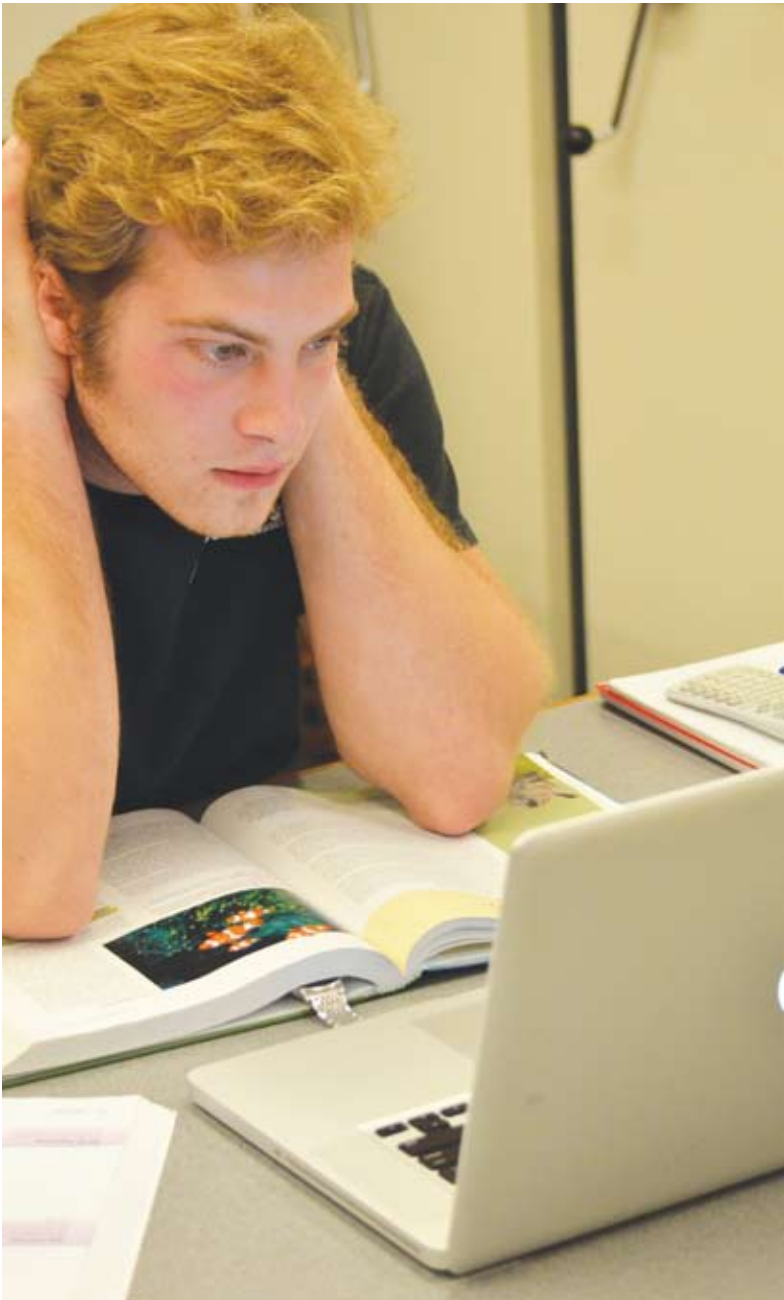
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Counseling Center offers new de-stressing sessions to students, faculty



NORMAN SEAWRIGHT | The Daily Mississippian
Senior Max Gove studying for his midterms and the MCAT exam.



NORMAN SEAWRIGHT | The Daily Mississippian

BY RYAN GROVER
ryan.grover08@gmail.com

The Calm in Chaos program, hosted by the University of Mississippi Counseling Center, reaches out to students, teachers and faculty to help them find calm amid their chaotic schedules.

The program teaches skills like rhythmic breathing, progressive muscle relaxation, guided imagery, guided meditation, mindfulness and unfocused meditation.

Counseling Center director Marc Showalter said the program is designed to “provide opportunities for students and

employees to learn some techniques – how to relax more and deal with stresses that are part of life for everyone.”

The six-part program, developed by staff member Josie Nicholson, pairs a leader with eight to 10 participants, who meet each week for an hour. During these meetings, participants are taught the various techniques to build stress management skills. By week six, Showalter said they have the skills to manage the stresses and anxieties of everyday life.

“Meditation is helpful to students in that it is proven to alleviate stress,” business

major Alex Peal said. “Stress is a large factor in the lives of college students, affecting how they operate. During the particularly stressful test season, meditation and finding calm is vital. The Calm in Chaos program seems great!”

There are usually three or four different sessions a semester and the classes fill up quickly. Showalter said they are open to working with groups or organizations that would like to participate in a private Calm in Chaos program.

The service is free and available to almost anyone affiliated with the university.

SUMMER 2012

MAY INTERSESSION:
MAY 14-26

FULL SUMMER TERM:
MAY 30-JULY 27

FIRST SUMMER TERM:
MAY 30-JUNE 27

SECOND SUMMER TERM:
JUNE 28-JULY 27

AUGUST INTERSESSION:
JULY 30-AUGUST 11

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ALEX EDWARDS | The Daily Mississippian
A fan dressed as Halloween character Michael Myers cheers on the Rebel baseball team, dressed as the horror character in honor of Sunday starter Mike Mayers.

ΦΜ

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Rebel Netters set for mid-week showdown against No. 4 Virginia



AUSTIN MCAFEE | The Daily Mississippian

Freshman Nik Scholtz
BY MATT SIGLER
mcsigler@olemiss.edu

The nationally ranked No. 16 Ole Miss men’s tennis team,

coming off a sweep of No. 12 Auburn and No. 46 Alabama this past weekend, moved up 28 spots in this week’s ITA National Rankings and welcomes No. 4 Virginia to the Palmer/Salloum Tennis Center/Galtney Court today at 2 p.m.
Ole Miss was one of four Southeastern Conference schools to go 2-0 on the opening week-end of league play, along with Georgia, Kentucky and Mississippi State.
The Rebels have played three top-15 teams this season, with wins against No. 15 Oklahoma and No. 12 Auburn and a loss

to No. 14 Mississippi State in the Mississippi Cup. No. 4 Virginia will be the team’s toughest test so far this season.
“They started the year off at No. 2 in the nation,” head coach Billy Chadwick said. “Many people feel they are the second best team in the country right behind Southern Cal, so it’s great to have them on campus, and I want to encourage all of our fans to come out and see some great tennis.”
The Rebels ride a three-match winning streak and look to keep the streak alive with a big upset today.
“It’s a great opportunity for us

to beat one of the best teams in the nation,” junior Jonas Lutjen said. “I think we match up well against them, and if we play well, we’re capable of the upset. We’re looking forward to it.”
Lutjen, the 48th-ranked singles player in the nation, went 5-1 this past week in singles and doubles combined. The top three players of the Rebels’ single lineup, freshman Nik Scholtz, senior Marcel Thiemann and Lutjen, were a combined 8-1 this past week and 15-5 overall this season.
Virginia comes into the match with the No. 1- and 8-ranked players in the nation — Mitchell

Frank and Jamere Jenkins — in the top three of the Cavaliers’ single lineup and their No. 1 singles player, Alex Domijan, is ranked No. 53 in the nation. Double play will likely feature a top-20 match-up between the senior twins Marcel and Chris Thiemann, ranked No. 19, and Virginia’s No. 1 doubles team of Drew Courtney and Domijan, ranked No. 13.
“Playing against Virginia is the match that we can really get on the map,” Scholtz said. “There is no pressure on us, but we know that deep in our hearts if we play to the best of our abilities, we can definitely cause an upset.”

Lutjen the latest in talented German contingent at Ole Miss



CAIN MADDEN | The Daily Mississippian

Junior Jonas Lutjen
BY MATT SIGLER
mcsigler@olemiss.edu

Junior tennis player Jonas Lutjen grew up around tennis and the sport was in his life as

long as he can remember. From juniors and international play in his native Germany to three years at Ole Miss, he has tasted success.
“I started playing when I was around 5 years old,” Lutjen said. “I always watched tennis matches with my brother and sister. We were pretty good with sports. My brother played tennis, my sister played tennis and, I guess, I just followed in their footsteps.”
The Schessel, Germany native achieved a career-high ranking of No. 4 in junior rankings and No. 80 in the German men’s rankings. He won two ITF tournaments in doubles and one in singles. He was also a member of the German National Team. Lutjen then decided to take his game overseas and become part of the Ole Miss family after receiving knowledge of the pro-

gram while still in Germany.
“I knew the twins (Marcel and Chris Thiemann) before,” he said. “Both of them were practicing in the same area and playing in the same tournaments. (Ole Miss assistant coach) Toby (Hansson) was the main reason I came here. I had a good talk with him and he told me a lot about the program. He saw me at a tournament then came and visited me, and that made me choose Ole Miss.”
After becoming a Rebel, Lutjen immediately noticed a difference in collegiate play and the type of play back in his native Germany.
“It is a lot different,” he said. “Tennis here is a lot bigger. All the fans are watching and there is a lot of pressure to play on the team and to not just play for yourself. We have team matches

in Germany as well, but maybe only 20 or so people are there. Here we have a good match with like 500 (people), which is a lot better and more exciting.”
Lutjen’s success on the international stage has transferred well to the college level, where he has compiled a 30-25 overall record in singles and 34-20 overall record in doubles for his career. However, one of his favorite memories was a triumph for one of his teammates and fellow countryman, senior Chris Thiemann.
“I think the win last year at Florida was big,” he said. “Chris (Thiemann) clinched for us. It wasn’t a good memory for me. I was on the ground cramping, but at least we won the match. But every win is exciting; every win is a good moment.”
After a 2-0 start in league play,

Lutjen has high hopes for the team the rest of this season and said he believes they have what it takes to be an elite program.
“I think we have a great team,” he said. “We can always win four matches against everyone in the country, I think, if we have a good day. I think our goal is just to always be 100 percent at every match so that we can do that.”
Now that he is a junior, Lutjen is beginning to throw around the idea of tennis after school, but for now, he is focused on the task at hand.
“I’ll see how things look after I graduate next year,” he said. “Right now, I’m feeling really good and confident. When I’m back home during the summer and winter, I play tournaments, and we’ll just see how far it goes. I would love to play some professional afterwards.”

BASEBALL,
continued from page 12

lead on a fielder’s choice RBI courtesy junior third baseman Andrew Mistone and a sacrifice fly from Kirksey with the bases loaded.

Junior right-hander Tanner Bailey took over for Laxer in the seventh after the Madison native gave up just one run on two hits in 2.1 innings for the Rebels.
“I thought Laxer might have had his best outing of the year,” Bianco said.
Ole Miss scored their 11th run in the seventh when freshman first baseman Sikes Orvis, who pinch hit for Snyder, drove in freshman outfielder Senquez Golson from third on a ground-out to short. Bailey pitched an inning of scoreless and hitless ball with a strikeout before giving the ball to sophomore right-hander Aaron Greenwood in the eighth.
Greenwood gave up a lead-off home run in the inning for the Skyhawks’ fourth run of the game. It was also the first home run the Ole Miss pitching staff has surrendered this season. Greenwood gave up one run on one hit with two strikeouts in an inning of relief.
In the bottom half of the eighth, Anderson drove in a couple of more runs on a two-run triple. He finished the day 2-for-4 with three RBI. Anderson, then, scored on a sacrifice fly from freshman right fielder Will Jamison.

After Golson reached on an error and freshman shortstop Jake Overbey walked, Orvis followed with a RBI of his own to drive in Golson. Junior third baseman John Gatlin loaded the bases with a walk and then Auston Bousfield got plunked to bring home another run.
The highlight of the inning, however, was a grand slam by Kirksey to extend the lead to 20-4. Kirksey, who hit two home runs and drove in seven runs, said it can be difficult to stay focused in a blowout such as last night’s game, but he said he did his best to stay in it until the end.
“The coaches make sure we stay locked in,” Kirksey said. “Coach Godwin, he makes sure we’re ready to play at all times. These at-bats count. It goes to your average. It’s good to be locked in up there.”
Freshman right-hander Chris Ellis closed things with a scoreless ninth inning.
The Rebels will welcome the Houston Cougars to Oxford this weekend for a three-game series. Friday night’s game is set for 6:30 p.m., while Saturday’s game is set for 1:30 p.m. and Sunday’s game is set for noon.

BRACKET,
continued from page 11

probably out of the event. Harvard clinching the Ivy League automatic bid by virtue of Penn’s loss to Princeton Tuesday helped. Memphis and Southern Miss are likely to qualify out of Conference USA. TCU winning the Mountain West would be the worst type of RPI boost and Colorado State is another team that could steal a bid in that conference. Finally, Nevada might get a look should it fail to win the WAC.
As for major conference bubble teams, carnage in the ACC Tournament, with Miami and N.C. State in particular losing, would help as would failure by Texas in the Big 12. Just about every game in the Big East Tournament might have an impact while the Rebels would be helped by an early Northwestern loss in the Big Ten. As for the Pac-12, expect that conference to earn two bids, even if it may not deserve it this season. However, a final involving California, but not Washington or Oregon, might reduce the Pac-12’s haul to one.

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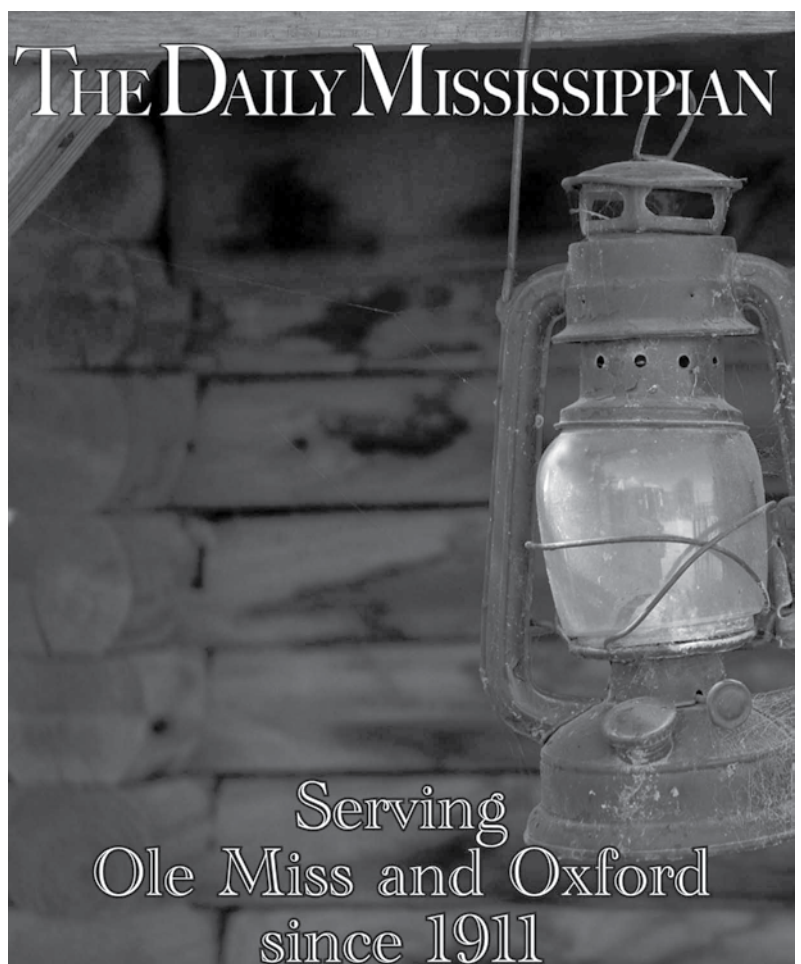
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3-7

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BY JIM DAVIS

A CAT'S CURIOSITY IS RIVALED ONLY BY HIS APATHY

THE FUSCO BROTHERS

By J.C. DUFFY

OH, GOD, NOT THOSE PATHETIC ROLE-PLAYING BEARS AGAIN, DOCTOR... WHAT'S THE POINT???

IF NOTHING ELSE, AL, THEY HELP ME BRUSH UP ON MY VENTRILOQUIISM SKILLS.

3-7

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DILBERT

By SCOTT ADAMS

TALK TO ALLEN ABOUT THIS.

I'LL NEED AN EXIT STRATEGY.

HE'S A SERIAL TALKER. I'LL BE TRAPPED FOR HOURS WHILE HE STRINGS TOGETHER INFINITE, UNRELATED STORIES.

ENGI-NEERS HAVE WEIRD PROBLEMS.

WHAT COULD I EAT THAT WOULD MAKE ME PUKE IN TEN MINUTES?

3-7-12

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NON SEQUITUR

By WILEY

OH...I GUESS IT MEANS WE'RE NOT STRANDED AFTER ALL. MY BAD...

HELP

THE DESERT ISLAND

3-7

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DOONESBURY

By GARRY TRUDEAU

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I HAVE ENEMIES, BECCA - I HAVE TO KEEP THEM GUESSING WHERE I'M SLEEPING. LIKE SADDAM HUSSEIN.

WHO IS DEAD.

HE HAD OTHER ISSUES.

DO YOU PAINT-BALL? I HAVE AN INDOOR COURSE.

3-7

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9 1 7 6

8 3

7 4

2 1 5

9 1 7 4 8

5 6

7 2

4 2 8 5

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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats

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IIIIII

5	9	4	1	8	3	7	6	2
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3	1	5	6	7	2	8	9	4
8	7	9	4	3	5	2	1	6
6	4	2	9	1	8	3	5	7

ACROSS

1 Weak, as an excuse

7 Dirty place

10 Thin coating

14 Parka

15 Before, in combos

16 Great Lakes state

17 Lodge

18 Drumstick

19 Trotsky's first name

20 Petunia, for one (2 wds.)

23 Pinnacles

26 Sturm — Drang

27 Pommel —

28 Fixed the table

29 HBO alternative

30 Gullet

31 Drill attachment

32 Koppel or Knight

33 Holiday quaff

37 Suffix for forfeit

38 Laugh syllable

39 Did lunch

40 Santa — winds

41 Glacial deposit

43 Qt. fractions

44 Toon pooch

45 Give it a go

46 Embroider, maybe

47 Branch off

48 Aussie minerals

51 Feedbag morsel

52 Daddy's sis

53 Oenophile gatherings

56 He directed Marlon

57 Floe or berg

58 Bright songster

62 — de plume

63 Rather or Duryea

64 Hot dog seller

65 Ballpark figure

66 Painter's work

67 Sea off Greece

DOWN

1 Distant

2 Compass pt.

3 Daughter of Hyperion

4 Paid off

5 Takes on cargo

6 Made do with small

7 First-aid device

8 Gallup finding

9 Peterman

10 Tails, maybe

11 "Do — a Waltz?"

12 Veld stalkers

13 Con game

21 "Crocodile —"

22 Full moon and half moon

23 Photo book

24 View from Giza

25 Carpentry joint

29 Smaller than small

30 Not shiny

32 Parched feeling

33 Elk

34 Composer — Copland

35 Dormant

36 Tall and thin

42 Minimally (2 wds.)

46 Potential

47 Welding

48 Track standout

49 Whale type

50 Jung's inner self

51 Famed statuette

52 Concur

54 Verdi opus

55 PBS series

59 Keats opus

60 Mauna —

61 Ocean-going bird

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

MESA	WOWED	PUMA
ATOP	INANE	ERIC
SAIL	NORSE	SALE
STRONG	UPHOLDS	
MID	LESE	
GARBLING	ROBIN	
ELI	NAE	BUENO
NESTEGG	NOSTRUM	
OCEAN	AYN	ERA
AKRON	REEDITED	
	URGE	OULD
BAGGIER	NOISES	
EVIL	BANJO	OTTO
SOLO	UTURN	MONA
SWAM	TENSE	SAAR

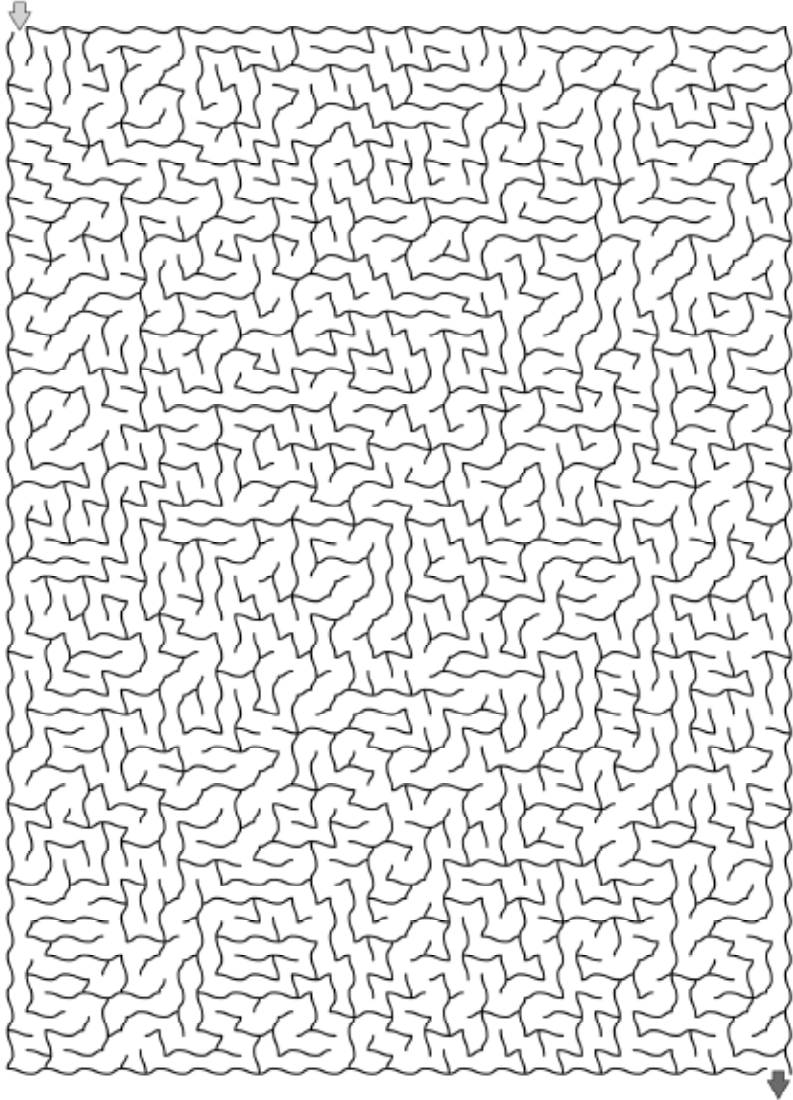
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56					57			58			59	60	61
62					63			64					
65					66			67					

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SEC Tournament storylines: Kendrick suspended, bubble watch

BY DAVID HENSON
dahenson@olemiss.edu

The 2012 SEC men's basketball tournament will tip off Thursday at noon when No. 8 seed LSU takes on No. 9 seed Arkansas. Below are some storylines to keep an eye on during the four-day tournament in New Orleans:

Kendrick suspended for SEC Tournament

Ben Garrett (Ole Miss Spirit/Scout.com), Hugh Kellenberger (Clarion-Ledger) and Neal McCready (Rebel Grove/Rivals.com) reported Tuesday night that Ole Miss has suspended freshman guard Jelani Kendrick for conduct detrimental to the team. He did not travel with the team to New Orleans for this week's SEC Tournament. Kendrick did not play in Saturday's game in what head coach Andy Kennedy called a coaches' decision, the third time he has not played since becoming eligible in mid-December.

Bubble Watch

While Kentucky is a lock as a No. 1 seed, several teams will enter New Orleans playing for their postseason lives.

Joe Lunardi from ESPN included five teams in the tournament from the SEC in his latest bracket projections: Kentucky, Florida, Mississippi State, Alabama and Vanderbilt.

To go with the five teams in the

tournament, Lunardi also listed Tennessee as the second team to be left out of the field.

Jerry Palm of CBS Sports listed the same five teams as Lunardi in his projections. However, instead of Tennessee as one of the first teams out, Palm listed Ole Miss.

If Ole Miss defeats Auburn in the first round of the tournament on Thursday afternoon, the Rebels would set themselves up against Tennessee in a matchup that could potentially land one team in the NCAA tournament and, thereby, popping the other team's bubble ensuring its trip to the NIT.

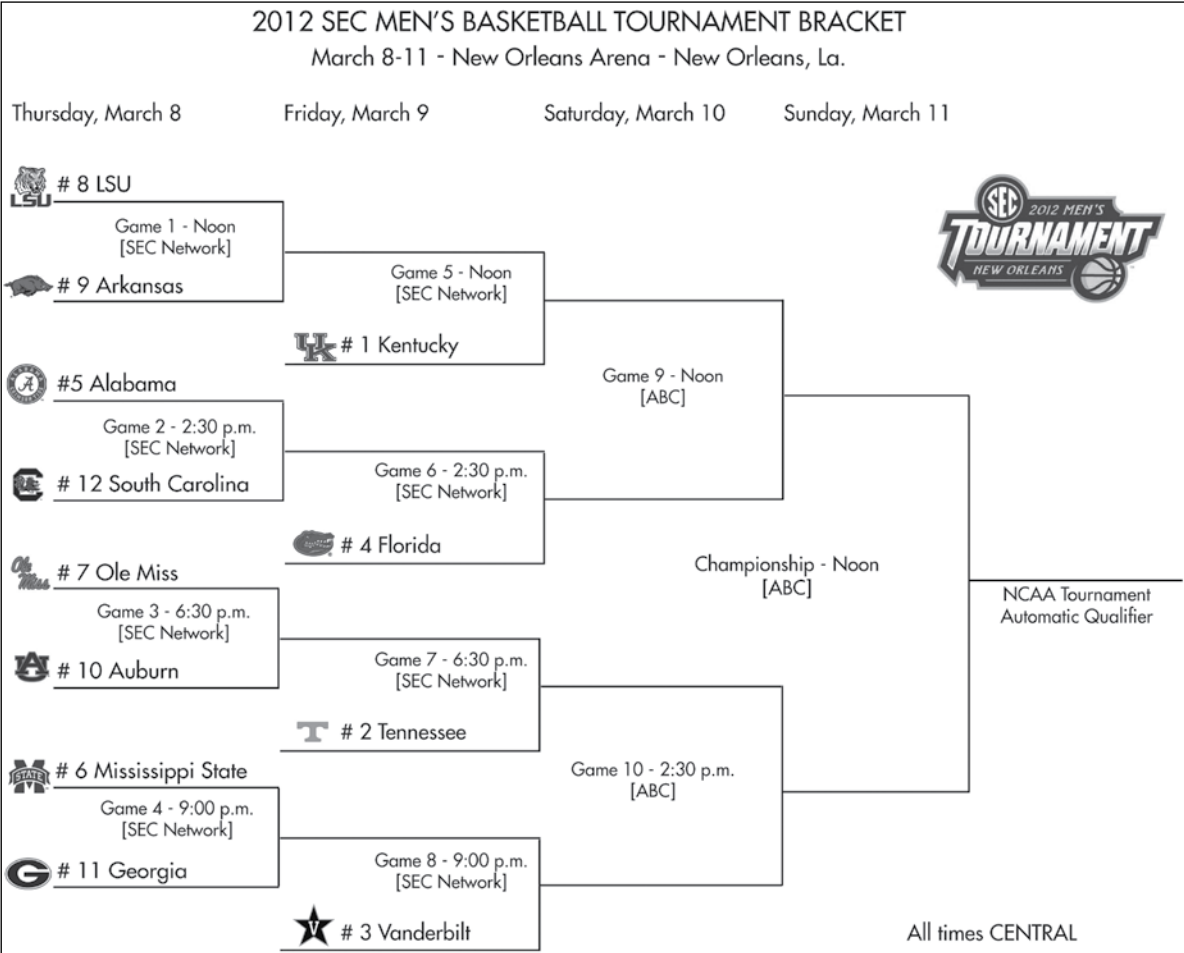
Mississippi State

Mississippi State is considered by some to be the second-most talented team this season in the SEC behind only Kentucky.

This thought would have been hard to argue with when the Bulldogs found themselves with a 19-5 record midway through league play.

The second half of SEC play was not as kind as the Bulldogs went 2-5 in their last seven games, finishing the season 21-10, including a five-game losing streak.

During that losing streak, first-team All-SEC Arnett Moultrie said, "Maybe not. Probably not," when asked if he thought there was enough inner-drive on this team, collectively, to try to pull out of the losing streak.



INFOGRAPHIC BY CAROLINE DANIELS | The Daily Mississippian

The team responded with an overtime win at South Carolina, followed by closing out the regular season with a win against Arkansas in the regular season finale in Starkville.

The Bulldogs hope to have that losing streak behind them in

hopes of making a run in the SEC Tournament and ensure their spot in the NCAA Tournament.

Mississippi State was projected as a No. 11 seed in Lunardi's latest projection and a No. 12 seed in Palm's latest projection.

The Bulldogs likely cannot af-

ford a first-round loss this weekend in New Orleans.

Their first-round opponent will be the same Georgia Bulldogs that started the five-game losing streak with a 70-68 overtime win in Starkville. Tip-off for that game is set for 9 p.m.

Blogging the Bracket: Ole Miss and the NCAA Tournament

The Daily Mississippian Sports Editor Austin Miller caught up with SB Nation's bracketologist Chris Dobbertean from Blogging the Bracket to discuss the Rebels' NCAA Tournament chances entering the SEC Tournament.

Austin Miller: In your latest bracket on Tuesday, Ole Miss was No. 75 on the S-Curve, the seventh team out of the NCAA Tournament. Elaborate on that, and what's your overall assessment of Ole Miss' NCAA Tournament chances entering the SEC Tournament?

Chris Dobbertean: Indeed, I have Ole Miss seven teams behind Drexel, who the Rebels happened to miss at the Paradise Jam back in November. However, the distance between the Rebels and the field is not quite as far as it would be in many seasons, thanks to the quality of the bubble.

AM: How does Ole Miss' resume compare to other bubble teams? What are the strengths and weakness of the resume? How do the numbers match up with the "eye test" for Ole Miss?

CD: Ole Miss' resume compares quite favorably to other bubble teams. On one hand, the Rebels have more wins against the RPI Top 100 (six) than Miami (three), a team they happened to beat in Oxford, N.C. State (five, with none against the Top 50) and Texas (four), even though they sit further down the

RPI rankings at No. 58. Tennessee, on the other hand, has more Top 100 wins (seven, with four against the Top 100), but some bad losses are deflating the Vols' RPI. However, Ole Miss has some questionable losses on its profile, particularly against other teams that may be under consideration like Middle Tennessee, Dayton, Tennessee and Mississippi State, along with a couple against teams that are most assuredly not (LSU and Auburn). Of course, the Selection Committee will take into account Murphy Holloway's injury absence in three of those losses, which will help. The Rebels are certainly a more effective team when he's healthy, which helps with the "eye" test.

AM: How many Southeastern Conference teams get in the NCAA Tournament? What do Alabama and Mississippi State have to do in the SEC Tournament to remain in the NCAA Tournament? What do Tennessee and Ole Miss have to do to play their way into the NCAA Tournament?

CD: Depending on what happens elsewhere over the next five days, the SEC will get between four and six teams in. Kentucky, Florida and Vanderbilt are locks while Alabama and Mississippi State should be safe with victories on Thursday. As for the possible sixth spot (or fifth if the Bulldogs lose to Georgia), Friday's possible

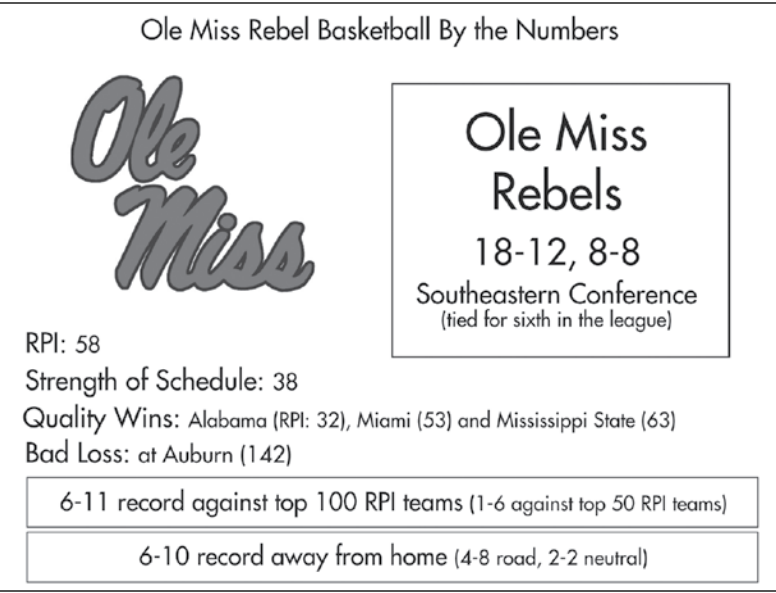
quarterfinal between the Rebels and Tennessee is a virtual elimination game.

AM: How does the SEC Tournament draw set up for Ole Miss with top-25 teams Kentucky and Florida in the other side of the bracket? How many wins does Ole Miss need for NCAA Tournament consideration? Other than winning the tournament, how many wins does Ole Miss need to feel "safe" about their NCAA Tournament chances?

CD: If Ole Miss can beat Auburn on Thursday then topple Tennessee 24 hours later, they will be in far better position — though not quite safe for a bid. Vanderbilt's presence in the bottom half of the draw is not particularly helpful, thanks to that 26-point loss the Rebels suffered at the hands of the Commodores in Oxford on Feb. 16. However, avenging that defeat — should both teams get that far — would go a long way to helping the Rebels, both in terms of their computer numbers and the "eye" test.

As for the draw, I think the other half of the bracket would have actually worked out a little better for the Rebels, particularly because of Florida's issues since Will Yegute broke his foot.

AM: What mid-major and low-major teams does Ole Miss want to win their con-



INFOGRAPHIC BY CAROLINE DANIELS | The Daily Mississippian

ference, so the "bubble" does not shrink for teams like Ole Miss? What other "bubble" teams does Ole Miss want to lose during their conference tournaments?

CD: With so many teams on the "bubble," the list is fairly lengthy. Ole Miss fans should be cheering for Temple and St.

Louis to win the Atlantic 10 over Xavier, St. Joseph's and Dayton, even though a Flyers win would help the Rebels' computer numbers. A Long Beach State win in the Big West Tournament is vital and that task got more difficult for the 49ers with the news that guard Larry Anderson is

See BRACKET, PAGE 8

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Kirksey powers No. 14 Ole Miss to blowout win against UT-Martin

BY DAVID COLLIER
dcollier@olemiss.edu

The No. 14 Ole Miss baseball team (10-2) scored in every inning except the fourth and included a trio of home runs to propel them to a 20-4 win against the UT-Martin Skyhawks (3-10) last night.

“This was just a really good night for us offensively,” head coach Mike Bianco said. “I thought,

besides Zach, who has been tremendous and continues to swing a very hot bat, several guys had some good at bats tonight.”

Senior first baseman Matt Snyder delivered the first of many blows of the night, sending a three-run home run into the right-field student section.

In the second, the Rebels scored two more runs on a 2-RBI single by junior second baseman Alex

Yarbrough, who finished 3-for-4 with two RBI.

The Skyhawks got a run back in the top half of third before senior designated Zach Kirksey hit his fourth home run of the season on a laser shot into the UT-Martin bullpen.

Freshman right-hander Sam Smith’s day was done after giving up his second run of the day in the fourth. Smith went 3.2 innings, giving up two runs on four hits with six strikeouts and a walk.

“He wasn’t as sharp tonight,” Bianco said of Smith. “He just didn’t look comfortable tonight. His velocity was a little down on his fastball and his slider command wasn’t there, but he hung in there. Once you get a lead and start to extend it, it puts a little pressure on the young guys.”

UT-Martin added another run



AUSTIN MCAFEE | The Daily Mississippian
Senior designated hitter Zach Kirksey swings at a pitch in last night’s 20-4 win against UT-Martin. Kirksey hit two home runs, scored three runs and drove in seven runs.

in the fifth to cut into the deficit against freshman right-hander Josh Laxer, who came in to relieve Smith. Ole Miss then got the run back in the bottom of the inning with a RBI single by sophomore shortstop Austin Anderson. In the sixth, the Rebels tacked on to their

See BASEBALL, PAGE 8



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